

MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS
U.S. Embassy, Manila, The Philippines
May 14th, 2013

Deadlines for the Massachusetts Special General Election for U.S. Senate

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THROUGH THE EMBASSY WARDEN SYSTEM AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD.

MASSACHUSETTS TO HOLD SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION FOR U.S. SENATE

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will hold a Special General Election for U.S. Senate on Tuesday, June 25, to fill the seat vacated by Senator John Kerry.

Uniformed Services personnel, their spouses and dependents, and U.S. government employees serving outside the territorial limits of the United States must submit a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to request an absentee ballot.

You can register to vote and request an absentee ballot electronically, or by mail or fax, using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) automated tool at <http://www.fvap.gov/request/request-ma.html>. Do not forget to indicate on the FPCA how you would like to receive your absentee ballot (by mail, fax or email).

Please note you will not receive a ballot automatically, even if you voted in the November 6, 2012, General Election.

If you are concerned about not receiving your ballot in time to vote, use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). The FWAB automated tool is available at <http://www.fvap.gov/request/request-ma.html>. The FWAB is also available in embassies, consulates and military installations around the world.

****Important Dates****

FPCA request deadline - Before 12 PM EDT, June 24

Voted ballot received by election authority for ballots returned by fax or email - Before 8 PM EDT, June 25

Voted ballot received by election authority for ballots returned by mail from *within* the U.S. - Before 8 PM EDT, June 25

Voted ballot received by election authority for ballots returned by mail from *outside* the U.S. - Postmarked by June 25 and received before 5 PM EDT, July 5

To determine the status of your absentee ballot request once submitted, contact your local election office. You can find contact information for your voting jurisdiction at <http://www.wheredoivotema.com/track/trackmyballot.aspx>.

Go to www.FVAP.gov to fill out and print your forms today! Additional information on the completion and submission of these forms is also available, as well as Massachusetts voter-specific information. Find a list of municipal contact information at <https://www.fvap.gov/r3/jurisdictions/MA>

The Embassy is located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila, Philippines and is open 0730-1600, Monday through Friday. The Embassy's main telephone number is (632) 301-2000. American citizens needing to speak to the Embassy can dial this number and ask to be connected to the American Citizen Services (ACS) unit or with the Embassy Duty Officer (for calls outside of normal business hours). You can also contact the ACS unit through email at ACSInfoManila@state.gov or through the [Embassy Facebook page](#). Please visit [our website](#) for information on all services offered by the ACS unit.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens travelling to or residing in the Philippines enroll in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) program. Registering gives you access to updated information on travel and security within the Philippines and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact you in case of emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly at the nearest U.S. Embassy or consulate.

You can also stay up to date by bookmarking the [Department of State's website](#), which contains all current [Travel Warnings](#) and [Travel Alerts](#), as well as the current [Worldwide Caution](#). Please consult the [Country Specific Information on the Philippines](#), for general information about the Philippines. For additional information, refer to "A Safe Trip Abroad" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. Embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. Current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444 for callers from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by "following" us on [Twitter](#) and "liking" the Bureau of Consular Affairs on [Facebook](#). You can also download our free Smart Traveler App, available through [iTunes](#) and the [Android market](#), to have travel information at your fingertips.